

[Mrs. Chas. Gaston]

[???] [350?]

FORM A Circumstances of Interview

NAME OF WORKER Bessie [Jollensten?] ADDRESS Ogallala Nebraska.

DATES September 5th [1938?] Oct. 19,38 SUBJECT Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Gaston

1. Name and address of informant Mrs Chas. Gaston
2. Date and time of interview October Sept. 5 th, 38.
3. Place of interview In her home in Ogallala, Nebr.
4. Name and address of person, if any, who put you in touch with informant
5. Name and address of person, if any, accompanying you
6. Description of room, house, surroundings, etc. The modern front room of her home.

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Sept, 5, 1938

No 1.....

Charles Gaston,.....Bessie Jollensten,

Ogallala, Nebraska. Form C.

Mr Gaston was born May 2, [?] 1859, at [?] [Saskatchewan?], Canada. and came to [?]
Keith County in 1884.

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Mrs Gaston was born Nov 15, 1869 at La Port Indiana, coming with Her people to Ogallala. Neb. in 1885. Mr and Mrs Gaston were married at Grant Nebraska, 1888. The Gastons Moved to Happy hollow 2 miles south of Ogallala, where their six children were born, John Franklin in 1892, [Isac?] Iver 1894, Katherine Marjria, 1896, Charles Adam, 1899, Keneth Lloyd, 1892, and Dicy [Dortitt?], 1906.

Mr. Gaston Worked at a flour mill during the week, and went home to his homestead on Sundays, which they were holding down.

In 1906 the Gastons moved to Ogallala, on E. 4thst. now occupied by the Pearls Beauty shop. They run a General merchandise store for twelve years, until they were burned out, in a fire caused by a oil stove in the Hotel across the street.

Both Mr and Mrs Gaston are still living in their lovely home and in very good health. Mr Gaston has been [?] Janitor at the Court house 23 years, and still working there.

There Son John Franklin is in the painting business, while Kenneth, is a dentist, in Ogallala, and their daughter Katherine is married and lives near her mother.

Mrs Gaston does not consider our depression, serious; Says she was here during the really hard times, One winter she relates they had nothing to eat except, turnips, and beef; the turnips were raised and the beef was d donated [by?] one of his neighbors [?] R.K. Lewis who had a bunch of Longhorns. Most every one managed to, buy a keg of sorghum, and parched wheat for coffee. If You had potatoes, This was considered a real luxury, and you were supposed to call in the neighbors and have a celebration. This is an example of what Pioneer cooperation, and Western Hospitality was. Some times [some?] families would go on chokecherry hunts to ash hollow, this trip took two days.

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Some times our relatives would send boxes of Dried fruit from back east, which we ate without sweetening, and were glad to get them. We had to haul our water from near by Springs, in a 50 gallon tank.

Says they used to make sheets, pillowcases, underwear, dishtowls, etc. out of their flour sacks, but despite these conditions the young people, seemed to have enjoyed themselves, better times than now as some people have too many luxuries to really appreciate them.

the Gastons left their farm 28 years ago to come to Ogallala to send their children to highschool. This information was given to me by Mrs Charles Gaston herself, in her home on street, Ogallala, nebraska. Sept 5th, 1938.